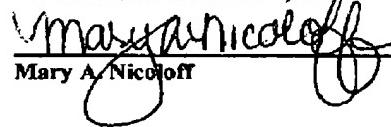


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:) Docket No. DN2003-127
Daniel Edward Bowen III, et al) Art Unit: 1712
For: A PROCESS FOR PREPARING A) Examiner: Costales, Shruti S.
SILICA/RUBBER BLEND WHICH INCLUDES)
DISPERSING SILICA, A SILICA COUPLING)
AGENT, AND A LOW MOLECULAR WEIGHT)
END-GROUP FUNCTIONALIZED DIENE)
RUBBER THROUGHOUT A CEMENT OF A)
CONVENTIONAL RUBBERY POLYMER, AND)
SUBSEQUENTLY RECOVERING THE)
SILICA/RUBBER BLEND FROM AN ORGANIC)
SOLVENT)
Serial No. 10/630,022)
Filed: July 30, 2003)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office to facsimile number (571) 273-8300 on December 14, 2005.


Mary A. Nicolloff

Commissioner for Patents
Post Office Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL - EXPEDITED ACTION REQUESTED

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Final Rejection mailed on November 8, 2005, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to amend the above-identified patent application without prejudice as follows: